

**KerrAlbert**

Office Supplies &amp; Equipment

January 26, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

The Justice Department's anti-trust lawsuit against Microsoft has gone on for much too long, and I would like to express my support for the settlement that the two sides reached in November of last year. It is a fair compromise that will benefit all parties involved, and I would like to see it finalized in the near future.

The government should not interfere with Microsoft simply because it is a successful company. Yet Microsoft has agreed to allow other independent companies new rights that will allow them to promote their own products (rather than Microsoft's) within the Windows operating system. Microsoft will not retaliate against computer makers that choose to do this, and the result will be stronger competition in the industry. Once competition increases, consumers will have more to choose from, and the technology industry will receive a real boost.

I believe the Justice Department made the right decision in settling this lawsuit. Microsoft can no go back to developing the types of ideas that have made it the successful company it is today, and the government can begin to focus its time and money on more important issues.

Sincerely,

Ernest Albert

cc: Representative David L. Bonior

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